

Mission Statement of the Regional Church

Our mission is

- To nurture members and congregations
- To establish and receive new congregations

While working together with the whole Church to do Christ's ministry in the world.

Doug and Cathy Myers Wirt
Regional Ministers

Audre Bratcher,
Administrative Assistant

On the Way with Doug and Cathy

• Sept. 22	Keizer, Meeting	Cathy
• Sept. 20	John Day, Worship	Cathy/Doug
• Sept. 19	Eugene FCC, Set up for Sunday Breakfast	Cathy
• Sept. 17	Portland, Commission on Ministry	Doug
• Sept. 16	Regional Board Executive Cte.	Doug
• Sept. 16	Ecumenical Ministries Board Meeting	Doug
• Sept. 16	Eugene, Eugene Area Ministers Lunch	Cathy
• Sept. 15	Boise, Snake River District Ministers	Doug/Cathy
• Sept. 14	Pendleton, Blue Mountain Ministers	Cathy/Doug
• Sept. 13	Ione, Worship, 2 Committee Meetings	Cathy
• Sept. 13	Grants Pass, Preaching	Doug
• Sept. 12	Hood River, Ministerial Installation	Cathy
• Sept. 11	Eugene, Glenwood Christian, Meeting	Doug
• Sept. 10	Interchurch Center Committee	Doug
• Sept. 10	Bishops and Executives Lunch	Doug
• Sept. 9	Women's Circle	Cathy
• Sept. 9	Vision Team Meeting	Cathy/Doug
• Sept. 6	Beaverton, Murray Hills, Worship	Doug
• August 20	Ecumenical Ministries Exec Cte.	Doug
• August 18	Eugene, Olive Plaza Board Meeting	Doug
• August 16	Boise, Red Rock Worship, Trinity Service	Cathy

News from our Congregations

Albany: Eric Dale began work as new Interim Minister.

Caldwell: Doug Wirt visits to preach in September.

Eugene First and Portland First: had a pulpit exchange with pastors Dan Bryant and Amy Piatt switching for one Sunday in September.

Grants Pass: ROC Food bank started by the church served over 7,000 people in June/July.

Hood River Valley: installed Rev. Alicia Speidel as pastor.

John Day: continues to minister with people affected by the forest fire in the area.

Keizer: 52nd anniversary on World Communion Sunday.

LaGrande: sent women to the women's retreat held in the Snake River District in Cascade.

Lynchwood and Salem: both held Church Leaves the Building type events in August.

Medford: Bill and Mary Jacobs started as Interim Ministers.

Murray Hills: held camp out at the beach in September.

Red Rock, Boise: Associate Pastor Erin Donnell is on sabbatical, including a trip to Palestine.

Springfield First and Eugene First: Youth wrote in the church newsletters about their great camp experiences.

St. Johns Community Church: voted to affiliate with the Disciples of Christ.

Save these dates!

October 16-17 Beaverton

*Fall Women's Retreat
Hosted by Murray Hills*

October 18 Portland

*Book Signing with Sandhya Jha
Hosted by Portland First*

October 19 Portland

Meet Sandhya Jha, Lynchwood



November 7 Portland

Regional Board Meeting

November 15 Portland

District Music Festival



October
2015

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www.oidisciples.org

Reconciliation Offering

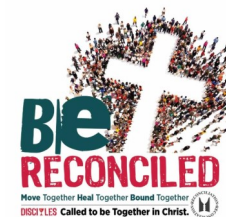
The annual reconciliation offering received in congregations September 27 and October 4 is divided in 50/50 between the regional and the whole church reconciliation ministries.

Money that remains in Oregon/SW Idaho goes to projects such as:

- Annual trip to Sonora at Christmas by the Peniel/Portland Church
- Yakama Christian Mission
- Anti-Racism Training in our regional church
- Gomer's House recovery ministry of Trees of Righteousness

The funds that are used by the Reconciliation Ministry of the whole church are used to make grants to projects in higher education and program ministries of the church that work to eradicate racism. Funds are also used to fund anti-racism training events.

You can learn more by going to the website:
<http://www.reconciliationministry.org/>



Women's Retreat October 16-17 with Sandhya Jha

Murray Hills Christian Church in Beaverton will once again host the fall women's retreat. This year's theme, *Lift Every Voice*, brings together worship, workshops, playful exploration of the theme as well as fair trade shopping and time to meet new friends and reconnect with Disciples Women from other congregations. Our speaker is the author of the new book *Pre-Post-Racial America*.

Community life and worship is being planned by Rev. Patty Evans, recently retired pastor of Albany First Christian Church. Registration materials are on our web site along with suggested area hotels near the church for those coming from out of town. A schedule and brochure are posted along with the registration form. Prices have gone down from last year. Child care is available. Watch Facebook and our web site for more information.

Camp Dates 2016 2

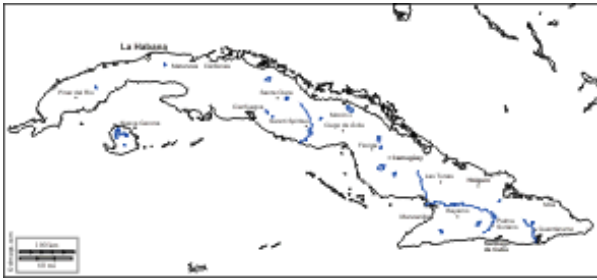
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**Regional Assembly
May 20-21, 2016**

**Hosted by
Northwood Christian
in
Springfield, Oregon**



At the end of August, I received a phone call from Julia Brown Karimu, President of Division of Overseas Ministries, inviting me to be a part of a delegation to Cuba in October. With the changing nature of the relationship between the United States and Cuba, visits between people of faith are beginning to be easier to accomplish. This trip comes at the invitation of Christians in Cuba.

After some thought and prayer, I did decide to accept the invitation and will be in Cuba October 2-7. As I know more of the travel schedule, I will post it on our Facebook and web pages. I will return with stories to share and look forward to bringing the news of the church in Cuba to you as stories in sermons, Sunday School presentations in other venues.

One of the reasons I am glad about this trip is that it will happen on the weekend when the church celebrates World Communion Sunday. I can imagine no better way to spend that Sunday than at table with Christians in another country.

Also in October Erin Donnell, Associate Pastor at Red Rock Christian Church in Boise, will be traveling to Israel and Palestine visiting Christians there with a group of Disciples of Christ women from North America. Erin will also bring home stories from the global church.

We look forward to our regional assembly in May of 2016 at Northwood Christian Church where our speaker, Vy Nguyen, Director of Week of Compassion, helps us to understand the global reach of our church in the areas of disaster response and refugee resettlement.

These trips, our responses to global events, and our long term relationships with global partners help us to remember that we are part of a worldwide church.

As a global mission regional church we seek to be sharing stories and experiences in all of our publications, events, and web presence. Watch for more resources in early January as we gather our stories in a new format to share.

In hope, Cathy

Pray and Play 2016 for Women — Say WHAT?

Dates and locations for 2016 Pray and Play Women's Events will be posted on our web site during the month of October with publicity materials. Cost for the events is being reduced in the hopes of increasing attendance. Our theme takes us into the Love Chapter, I Corinthians 13, to Pray and Play.



Camp Dates 2016 on web site

Camp dates for 2016 are now listed on our web site at <http://www.oidisciples.org/#!blank/c12dp>. Registration materials will be posted in early January for all camps. Help us to get out the word about the dates, so that families will have them in time to make their summer plans for 2016.

	<u>Idaho</u>	<u>Oregon</u>
Kids Camp (completed grades K-2)	June 24—26	TBA
Juniors (completed grades 3-5)	June 6—10	August 8—12
Chi Rho (completed grades 6-8)	July 25—30	July 31—August 5
CYF (completed grades 9-12)	August 1—6	July 31—August 5



Contribution Received for Gogoi Farm

“Global Ministries sincerely thanks you for your gift of \$810.80. As you have indicated, your gift will be used in its entirety for the Gogoi Development Project in Mozambique. Gifts like yours are vital to Global Ministries as we walk together with international partners in God’s global mission.”

Tom Morse, Resource Development, Global Ministries

Over the past months, multiple congregations and offerings from regional events have continued to be remitted to Global Ministries for salary support for Kim and Erik Free in Mozambique and to the Gogoi farm project in which they are engaged. The quotation above is from our most recent thank you letter. The Gogoi farm is in a rural area of Mozambique and is bringing a local community closer to self sufficiency in food production by replanting a large community farm that had been devastated during the civil war in the country. Now that peace has come to this part of the country, the farm is being replanted and people are working this ground together as a part of an initiative of our partner church in Mozambique. The United Church of Christ in Mozambique was established in 1905 and is a group of 56 congregations in the country with 20 ordained pastors and 5 lay ministers. This part of the church was initiated as a missionary effort of the United Church of Christ in Zimbabwe, a church that was established in 1893. Cathy was privileged to attend the 100 year anniversary celebration of the UCC Zimbabwe in 1993 held at Mt. Selinda Mission. During that celebration, she met people from the UCC Mozambique who had come to say thank you to UCC Zimbabwe for their role in the founding of their church. This past summer, Doug Wirt met the leader of the UCC in Mozambique who was attending our General Assembly in Ohio.

Kim and Erik have recently been to an event held in Zimbabwe to help train them in development to support the Gogoi project. Thank you to all who have continued to contribute to this part of our common mission together.

New Congregation Approved and Emergency Grants Made

The Executive Committee of the Regional Board met on September 16 and approved the following motions:

✦ Approved the request of **St. Johns Community Church in North Portland** to become an affiliating ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Andy Goebel is the Pastor at St. Johns.

✦ Approved two emergency gifts of \$1,000 each to be used:

1) at the discretion of **First Christian Church in John Day, Oregon** to assist families who have lost their homes due to the recent wild fires. This is added to a \$2,500 Week of Compassion grant and special gifts received by individual congregations.

2) by our mission partner **FEDICE in Ecuador** in response to families whose crops, animals and personal health has been affected by ash from a volcanic eruption. This is in addition to a \$4,000 grant given by the Disciples general church ministry

Chaired by Craig Johnson of Salem First Christian Church, the regional board will meet next on Saturday, November 7 at the Interchurch Center in Portland.

